



BSA TROOP 69 - LOUISVILLE, COLORADO



Troop 69 Postings



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Special points of interest:

- Know your state flags.
- Scout Tips- Fire
- Troop Web Site is Ready
- Klondike/PreKlondike
- 106-Year-Old to Start School
- What picture is this?
- The Quiz Show



Troop 69 Klondike & PreKlondike

Jan 17-19th Dateline Camp Patiya The Scouts of Troop 69 went up to Camp Patiya. Not very cold (10-15F) at night, but what a wind. There were gusts of 70+ mph with a steady wind of 40 mph on Saturday nite. Fortunately, most of us stayed in our tents and enjoyed the breeze whipping thru our ears. The scouts did a fine job of pushing their sled around, maneuvering to stations on nature (Mike), knots & 1st Aid (Matt), lunch (whole crew), and teamwork (Brandon). The stationmasters did a great job at setup and making sure that the scouts went through all the tasks. Many thanks to Dr Johs for giving an impromptu 1st Aid session on splints and bandages.

Attending were Matt, Mike, Brandon, Nick, James, Ian A, Ian M, Axeman, & Kitt. Many thanks to adults: Jim, Jin, Steve, Bill, Cory & Dave. We were joined by a family of P82 folks who are interested in seeing what the troop does.

Klondike time again! The scouts will be at Golden Gate State on Feb 28th thru March 2nd. They will perform compass work, map reading, cooking and fire building skills. We will leave Friday nite and come back Sunday morning. The scout troop did Preklondike in January so that we'll be ready for the real Klondike. There is a rumor that there will be a "special guest" and some good meals. Those attending will probably get polar bear awards.



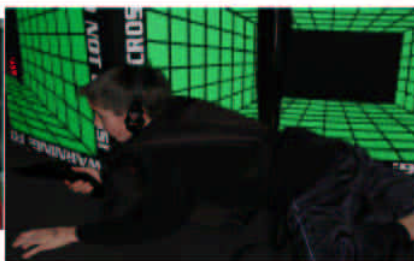
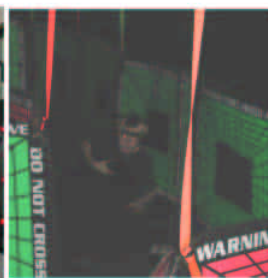
Laser Tag (Jan 27th)

Famous Sayings

"If toast always lands butter-side down, and cats always land on their feet, what happens if you strap toast on the back of a cat and drop it?"

Steven Wright

Name this State Flag.



Scout Tips — Fire & Clean Up

Famous Sayings

"The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans are suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're okay, then it's you."

Rita Mae Brown

Which Merit Badge is this?



Wet-Weather Fire Tip

Use fire starters. Fire starters won't take the place of tinder and kindling, but they can give your match flame a boost to get a blaze going. Make your own fire starters at home or carry a candle stub. In some parts of the country, you can find *pitch wood* - a piece of dead pine heavy with dried sap. The ease with which it burns makes it the perfect natural fire starter.

Soaping a Pan

For quick pot- and pan-washing, smear soap powder paste, softened soap, or liquid dish soap on the outside of the pot before using it over an open fire. After use, soot will wash off easily.

Quiz Show

What is Albedo?

The ratio of the amount of radiation reflected from an object's surface compared to the amount that strikes it. This varies according to the texture, color, and expanse of the object's surface and is reported in percentage. Surfaces with high albedo include sand & snow; low albedo rates include forests.

Name That Knot

What knot would you use to tie together two ropes - especially if they are different thicknesses?

- A. Taut line hitch
- B. Timber Hitch
- C. Bowline
- D. Sheet bend



Summer Camp



Summer camp is planned for June 15-22 at Camp Cedars, NEB. It is another aquatics base with a great deal of other things like horse-



back riding, a pool, shooting sports, etc. So far, we have the entire troop except 1 scout

signed up to go. Several dads are also going. Cost is going to be about \$175 (this

will cover gas money to get out to the camp). A handbook is available for download.



"Two reasons for the Scout Merit Badge Plan are 1) to give you more skill in the things you like to do; 2) to give you a chance to try out new activities, so that you can find new things which you really like."

-Baden-Powell



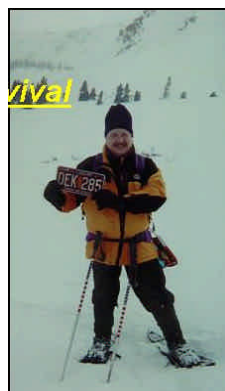
KNOTS!!

Snow Caving & Ice Climbing

Ice, snow, winter, not enough to do at Klondike? Well, then let's go snow caving. The plan is to go the morning of Sat, Feb 8th and drive to the Lost Creek area. Then hike up to an area that has a lot of snow for building snow caves.

The last time we did this, there was quite a bit. We'll snowshoe in and campe overnight. Cold and

wet, but definitely pretty neat. Leaders will be Ralph Tavino and Wyler Metge. This outing is for scouts 13 yrs old and up.



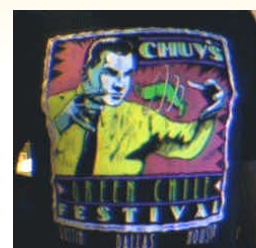
The last snowshoe outing had only two folks, but it was definitely a bunch of fun. Dave & Curt went to the Brainard Lake area and hiked ~ 3 miles. We will do another before winter is over.

Next up will be ice climbing— a date will be picked that does not conflict with our other scout outings.



Purpose of Boy Scouts

"The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America, incorporated on February 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress in 1916, is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness."



Hot Chili, anyone?

Pack 82 Visit



This last month, troop 69 Scouts went to pack 82 of Fireside Elementary School in Louisville. They gave a slide show and showed the younger scouts some of the gear that they use on their outings. The Cub Scouts and Webelos were very attentive and asked a number of questions. Many were interested in the sled and the



climbing gear that we brought while others wanted to know how old a kid had to be in order to join Boy Scouts. One mom wondered how we stayed warm on our outings. Hmm, sometimes I wonder that too. Anyway, the Scouts had a great time and look forward to visiting more local Packs and Dens.



106-Year-Old Summoned to Start School (strange but true)

OSLO, Norway - Ingeborg Berteau Thuen was delighted when local authorities offered her free bus rides to the school she's supposed to attend as a first-grader this fall. The last time Thuen started school, in 1903, she had to walk an hour each way.

"That's great," the 106-year-old told the Oslo newspaper Dagsavisen Friday about the free ride. "It's quite a way to walk."

She was born in 1897, but computers in Os township, near the west coast city of Bergen, misread the '97' in her birth date as 1997. That would have made her 6 years old, and the township sent her a letter summoning her to start school.

The letter also encouraged the centenarian's parents to list the children she would like to have in her class. Thuen, who gets around with the help of a walker, reckons she may do better than her first-time peers. "Since I can already read, maybe I should skip a couple grades," she joked.

Merit Badge Classes Update

The scouts will have opportunities to spend some of their time on Monday nights learning and earning merit badges. What merit badges do you want to earn? We will be reviewing what merit badges troop scouts think would be best to start working on for the next few months.

One idea from a parent was to have a binder with merit badges in progress for each scout. If all the adults were signed up for each required merit badge, then the requirements would get signed off a bit quicker.

What do you think?

What would you like to accomplish by the next Court of



Federal Judge Rules Parker Brothers Holds 'Monopoly' Monopoly (*theonion.com*)

WASHINGTON, DC—In a landmark antitrust decision, U.S. District Judge Thomas Nance ruled Monday that Parker Brothers' controlling interest in the popular board game Monopoly constitutes an illegal Monopoly monopoly.

Found guilty of colluding with Hasbro to corner the Monopoly market—undermining the production and sale of similar board games and designing the Monopoly CD-ROM game to "take over" the user's desktop and keep other games from being played—Parker Brothers faces fines of \$15,140 and up to three turns in prison.

In his 62-page ruling, Nance wrote: "In light of the evidence presented—namely, the myriad versions of the Monopoly board game produced, from the first edition to the high-tech Monopoly 2000, as well as the electronic hand-held version, CD-ROM, and video-game editions, all of which are produced or licensed by Parker Brothers—this court has no alternative but to find that a Monopoly monopoly is in effect."

Speaking outside his green plastic Atlantic City office building, lead prosecutor Milton Bradley told reporters: "These Monopoly monopolists have been allowed to park free for way too long, and it's high time they went directly to jail. We're talking about a company so dominant, it has leveraged its board-game success into a multi-tentacled goliath with holdings in railroads, real estate, electric utilities, and water works."

In testimony last Friday, Parker Brothers CEO Rich Uncle Pennybags insisted that his company has never violated antitrust laws at any time.

"Quite simply, we are being punished for being too successful," the mustachioed tycoon told a packed courthouse. "Monopoly is the world's most popular, best-selling board game, and it has become so not through any anti-competitive practices, but simply by being a quality product that people want to buy. Isn't that the way capitalism is supposed to work?"

In making its case, the prosecution presented evidence of numerous questionable activities on the part of Parker Brothers, including making a series of illegal \$200 payoffs to Go-passing associates, operating a grand-opera ticket-scalping ring, and engaging in price-gouging, charging \$1275 for a



Uncle Pennybags Testifies before Congress

three-minute stay at one of its luxury hotels on Atlantic City's North Carolina Avenue.

Prosecutors also accused Parker Brothers officials of money-laundering, both in offshore accounts and so-called "under the board" money. Parker Brothers attorneys argued that the extra funds were due to a bank error in the company's favor, but prosecutors cited tax forms showing that the company opted to pay a flat

income tax, per Atlantic City law, rather than have 10 percent of its gross worth calculated. Receipts for a luxurious diamond ring taxed at \$75,

presented late in the prosecution phase, proved similarly damaging to the defense.

"Clearly, this is not the squeaky-clean company Mr. Pennybags would have you believe it is," Bradley said. "And while we're on the subject, what about Pennybags himself? How reputable is he? This is, after all, the man who, in 1997, attempted to cover up his second-place finish in some sort of bizarre beauty contest for elderly men."

The guilty verdict comes at a bad time for Parker Brothers, which is already reeling from plummeting stock, a shrinking market share, and a recent assessment for street repairs on all its buildings. Attorneys for the company attempted to plead insolvency, presenting as evidence numerous face-down title deeds for holdings, but Nance was unmoved.

"From the McDonald's Monopoly game to Monopoly slot machines in Las Vegas to such college-themed games as Michiganopoly and Notre Dameopoly, Monopoly has so thoroughly dominated its arena, it can only be regarded as anti-competitive," Nance wrote in his decision. "No board game should wield this much clout in a free and open marketplace."

Business watchers say the verdict was long overdue.

"Pennybags is one of the most predatory and underhanded figures in the history of the toy-and-game industry," *Fortune* associate

editor Craig Black said. "This guy was literally writing his own rule book. He stabbed everyone in the back to get the world's most popular board game all to himself, and once he did, it was like a license to print his own money."



Vacant Monopoly Hotels at Atlantic City



Thimble is mobbed as he leaves Congress after testifying

Marxist's Apartment: A Microcosm of Why Communism Doesn't Work (from the onion.com)

AMHERST, MA—The filthy, disorganized apartment shared by three members of the Amherst College Marxist Society is a microcosm of why the social and economic utopia described in the writings of Karl Marx will never come to fruition, sources reported Monday.

"The history of society is the inexorable history of class struggle," said sixth-year undergraduate Kirk Dorff, 23, resting his feet on a coffee table cluttered with unpaid bills, crusted cereal bowls, and water-stained socialist pamphlets. "The stage is set for the final struggle between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat, the true productive class. We're well aware of that here at 514 W. Elm Street, unlike other apartments on this supposedly intellectual campus." Upon moving in together at the beginning of the fall 2001 semester, Dorff, Josh Foyle, and Tom Eaves sat down and devised an egalitarian system for harmonious living. Each individual roommate would be assigned a task, which he would be required to carry out on a predetermined day of the week. A bulletin board in the kitchen was chosen as the spot for household announcements, and to track reimbursements for common goods like toothpaste and toilet paper.

"We were creating an exciting new model for living," said Dorff, stubbing his cigarette into an ashtray that had not been emptied in six days. "It was like we were dismantling the apparatus of the state right within our own living space."

Despite the roommates' optimism, the system began to break down soon after its establishment. To settle disputes, the roommates held weekly meetings of the "Committee of Three."

"I brought up that I thought it was totally nuts that I'm, like, the only one who ever cooks around here, yet I have to do the dishes, too," said Foyle, unaware of just how much the apartment underscores the infeasibility of scientific socialism as outlined in *Das Kapital*. "So we decided that if I cook, someone else has to do the dishes. We were going to rotate bathroom-cleaning duty, but then Kirk kept skipping his week, so we had to give him the duty of taking out the garbage instead. But now he has a class on Tuesday nights, so we switched that with the mopping."

After weeks of complaining that he was the only one who knew how to clean "halfway decent," Foyle began scaling back his efforts, mirroring the sort of production problems experienced in the USSR and other Soviet bloc nations.

At an Oct. 7 meeting of the Committee of Three, more duties and a point system were added. Two months later, however, the duty chart is all but forgotten and the shopping list is several pages long. The roommates have also tried to implement a food-sharing sys-

tem, with similarly poor results. The dream of equal distribution of shared goods quickly gave way to pilferage, misallocation, and hoarding.

"I bought the peanut butter the first four times, and this Organic Farms shit isn't cheap," Eaves said. "So ever since, I've been keeping it in my dresser drawer. If Kirk wants to make himself a sandwich, he can run to the corner store and buy some Jif."

Another failed experiment involves the cigarettes bought collectively. Disagreements constantly arose over who smoked more than his fair share of the group's supply of American Spirit Blues, and the roommates now hide individually purchased packs from each other—especially late at night when shortages are frequent. The situation is familiar to Donald Browning, author of *Das Kouch: A History Of College Marxism, 1970-1998*.

"When workers willfully become less productive, the economy of the household suffers," Browning said. "But in a society where a range of ability naturally exists, someone is bound to object to picking up the slack for others and end up getting all pissy, like Josh does." According to Browning, the group's lack of productivity pervades their lives, with roommates encouraging each other to skip class or work to sit on the couch smoking pot and talking politics.

"A spirit of free-market competition in the house would likely result in better incomes or better grades," Browning said. "Then, instead of being hated and ostracized by the world at large as socialist countries usually are, they could maintain effective diplomacy with their landlord, their parents, and Kirk's boss who cut back his hours at Shaman Drum Books."

The lack of funds and the resulting scarcity breeds not only discontent but also corruption. Although collectivism only works when all parties contribute to the fullest extent, Foyle hid the existence of a \$245 paycheck from roommates so he would not have to pay his back rent, in essence refusing to participate in the forced voluntary taxation that is key to socialism. Even worse, Dorff, who is entrusted with bill collection and payment, recently pocketed \$30, a theft he claimed was "for the heating bill" but was put toward buying drinks later that night.

"As is human nature, power tends to corrupt even the noblest of men," Browning said. "The more power the collective has over the lives of the individuals, as is the case in this household, the more he who is in charge of distribution has to gain by being unscrupulous. These Marxists will soon realize they overestimated how much control they would like 514 W. Elm as an entity to have."



Marxists Josh Foyle & Kirk Dorff



Dishes & Marxist Tracts Clog the Kitchen Sink

BSA Troop 69 - Louisville,
Colorado

BSA Troop 69
Louisville, CO 80027

Phone: 303-541-3033
Fax: 303-447-2505
Email: bikedog@usa.net



Scout Slogan:
Do a Good Turn
Daily

On the Web!!!
<http://wwwbrr.cr.usgs.gov/bacteria/doglist.htm>

Web Site for Troop 69

by Luc Trudel

Troop 69 now has a new web site at

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bsat_69

The web site is a free service of Yahoo. Combined with the web site is a group email address that enables anyone in Troop 69 to email all the members of the troop (adults and scouts) using a single email address:

bsat_69@yahoogroups.com

The site offers the following services:

- chat
 - polls
 - file storage
 - calendar
 - recent messages
 - photos
- and more...

The only drawback to the site is that to log in you'll need to create a Yahoo account if you don't already have one (there's gotta be something in it for Yahoo...).

To use the group email you do not need to become a Yahoo member. Note that the existing web site

<http://wwwbrr.cr.usgs.gov/bacteria/doglist.htm> is still the official posting location for all documents. At present, we are only using the new site as a group email address.

Troop 69 Archives

This is a new column to give us all a flavor for the history of Troop 69. It is the oldest troop in Louisville and has been around since the early 1960's.

Hey, what about this picture?



New Swiss Army Knife may pose Health Risks

Got a story from the old days?



ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ QUESTIONS And Meeting Notes

State flag: South Carolina

The knot answer is
'D' the sheet bend.

Merit Badge: ?
photography



If you missed some,
better luck next

Stuff in February 2002

Feb 3 Regular Mtg at HUT 7pm

Feb 8-9 Snow Caving Expedition

Feb 9th Pack 82 Crossover

Feb 10 Regular Mtg at BVCC 7pm

Feb 12 Parent mtg -Baha'i Ctr 7-8pm

Feb 17 Regular Mtg at BVCC 7pm

Feb 18 PLC—hut 6-7pm

Feb 24 Regular Mtg at HUT 7pm

Feb 28-Mar 2—Klondike -Golden Gate Park

There may be some changes to the Troop meeting locations so listen up at the meetings.